

What's Alive in Hamilton

Bird Checklist

2013



Bitterns, Herons, Storks, Ibises & Vultures

American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) N, R

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) N, R

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) N, U

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) N, U

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) N, R

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) N, C

Hawks, Eagles & Falcons

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) N, R

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) N, R

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) N, R

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) N, U

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) N, R

Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) N, R

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) N, R

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) N, R

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) N, C

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) N, U

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) N, R

Rails & Cranes

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) N, U

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) N, U

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) N, R

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) N, R

Sandpipers

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) N, C

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) N, M

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) N, R

Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) N, M

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) N, R

American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) N, C

Kingfishers

Belted Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*) N, U

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**Juvenile Red-tailed Hawk,
Chris Hamilton**



**Northern Cardinal,
Hamilton Conservation Authority**



**Brewster's Warbler,
Bob Curry**



Gulls, Terns & Jaegers

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) N, U
Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) N, C
Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*) N, U
Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) N, U
Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) N, R

Pigeons & Doves

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) N, C
Rock Dove (*Columba livia*) E

Cuckoos & Anis

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) N, U
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) N, R

Owls

Eastern Screech-Owl (*Otus asio*) N, U
Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) N, U
Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) N, R
Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) N, R
Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) N, R

Nightjars

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) N, R
Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) N, R

Swifts & Hummingbirds

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) N, U
Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) N, U

Woodpeckers

Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) N, C
Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) N, C
Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) N, C
Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) N, U
Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) N, C
Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) N, R

Tyrant Flycatchers

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) N, C

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) N, R

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) N, U

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) N, U

Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) N, C

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) **N, M**

Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) N, U

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) N, C

Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) N, C

[illegible]

Vireos

Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*) N, R

Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) N, C

Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) N, C

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) N, U

Jays, Magpies & Crows

Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) N, C

American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) **N, C**

Larks, Martins & Swallows

Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) N, C

Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) N, U

Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) N, C

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) N. C.

Cliff Swallow (*Hirundo pyrrhonota*) N, U

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) N, U

Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) N, C

[illegible]

Titmice, Nuthatches & Creepers

Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*) N, C

Tufted Titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*) N, R

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) N, U

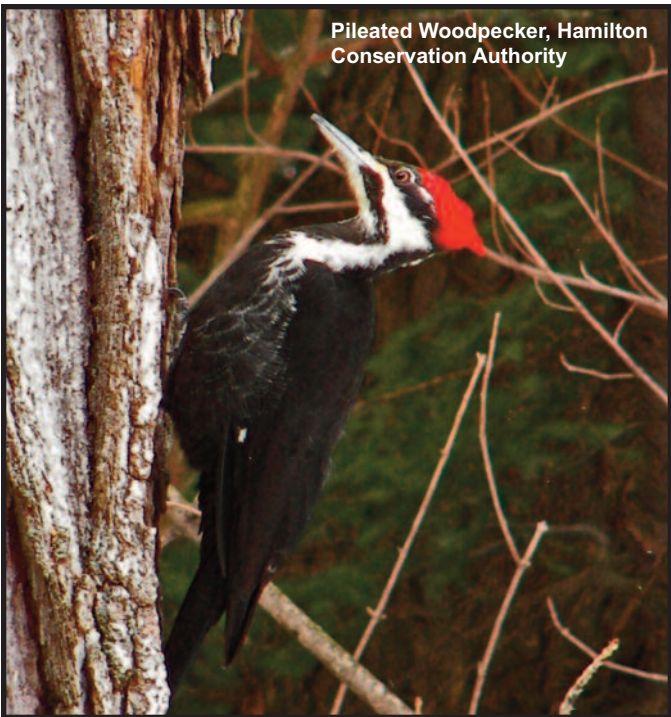
White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) N, C

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) N, U

**Great Blue Heron, Hamilton
Conservation Authority**



**Pileated Woodpecker, Hamilton
Conservation Authority**



Wrens

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) **N, U**

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) **N, C**

Winter Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) **N, U**

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) **N, U**

Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) **N, R**

Kinglets, Thrushes & Mimids

Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) **N, R**

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) **N, U**

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) **N, U**

Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*) **N, C**

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) **N, U**

American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) **N, C**

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) **N, C**

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) **N, U**

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) **N, U**

Sparrows

Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) **N, U**

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) **N, C**

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) **N, R**

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) **N, C**

Vesper Sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus*) **N, U**

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) **N, C**

Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) **N, U**

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) **N, C**

Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) **N, C**

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) **N, R**

Starlings, Pipits & Waxwings

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) **E**

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombicilla cedrorum*) **N, C**

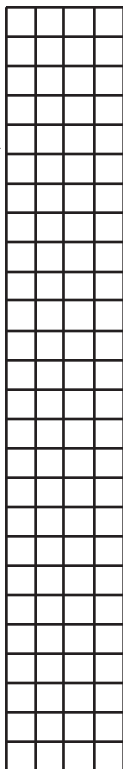
Tanagers

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) **N, U**

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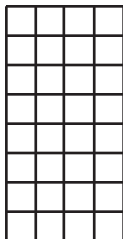
Wood Warblers

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*) **N, U**
Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) **N, R**
Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*) **N, U**
Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*) **N, R**
Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*) **N, R**
Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) **N, R**
Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*) **N, R**
Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) **N, U**
Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*) **N, R**
Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) **N, C**
Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) **N, R**
Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) **N, C**
Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) **N, R**
Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) **N, U**
American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) **N, C**
Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) **N, R**
Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*) **N, R**
Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis*) **N, U**
Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) **N, C**
Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) **N, M**
Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) **N, U**
Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) **N, C**
Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*) **N, R**
Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) **N, R**
Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*) **N, M**
Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) **N, R**



Blackbirds & Orioles

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) **N, C**
Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) **N, C**
Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) **N, C**
Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) **N, R**
Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) **N, C**
Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) **N, C**
Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) **N, C**
Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) **N, U**



Grosbeaks & Buntings

- Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) N, C
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) N, C
- Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) N, C
- Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) N, R

Finches

- House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) E
- Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*) N, R
- American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*) N, C
- Pine Siskin (*Carduelis pinus*) N, R

Weaver Finches

- House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) E

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Residency Codes:

N = Native - Indigenous to Ontario

E = Exotic - Not indigenous to Ontario

Abundance Codes:

R = Rare. Highly significant to Hamilton area.

U = Uncommon. Moderately significant in Hamilton area.

C = Common. Present in many locations across the City of Hamilton.

M = Migrant. Passes through Hamilton; not known to breed here.

This Bird Checklist is proudly supported by:



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**Friends of the
Environment
Foundation**

Checklist Designed by Hamilton Conservation Authority
Checklist source: Hamilton Natural Heritage Database,
2013.

Thanks to Bob Curry for his expertise on the status of
birds in the City of Hamilton.

Cover photo of Eastern Screech Owl by Chris Hamilton.

www.hamiltonnature.org

www.hamilton.ca



www.conservationhamilton.ca

Birds

There have been countless bird sightings and as many bird enthusiasts in the City of Hamilton dating back to the 1860's. Back then, the young Scottish immigrant Thomas McIlwraith drafted the first Hamilton bird list. Titled "List of Birds Observed near Hamilton, Canada West", Thomas's 202 species list has since set the foundation for Hamilton birders.

The Hamilton Naturalists' Club (HNC) was founded in 1919 and has continued to document bird occurrences throughout the City of Hamilton. Many birds are indicators of ecosystem health because they are sensitive to changes in the environment. By using this checklist and reporting your observations to the Hamilton Naturalists' Club, you are providing beneficial information that helps ecologists understand our natural environment.

The *What's Alive in Hamilton* Bird Checklist is comprised of breeding birds and common migrants to Hamilton. For a complete list of birds in the Hamilton area, please visit the Hamilton Naturalists' Club website at www.hamiltonnature.org